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To

Telegraph Company

Send the following telegram, subject to your usual terms and conditions, which are hereby agreed to.

CONFIRMATION OF TELEGRAM

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Fort Worth, Texas
 May 15, 1952
 Fort Worth, Texas

Honorable Harry S. Truman
 President of the United States
 The White House
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President: At the risk of being thought presumptuous and unduly persistent, once again I urge you to permit the so-called tidelands bill to become law PERIOD Among the considerations prompting this appeal is my deep interest in behalf of the school children of Texas, who would be the prime beneficiaries from the legislations.

PARAGRAPH

In the form in which it has come from conference committee and has been approved by House and Senate, the measure does no more than confirm to the states the title to lands which traditionally have been theirs, without relinquishment by the federal government of anything to which it might have claim outside the historic boundaries of the states PERIOD Permitting this measure to become law will, in my opinion, constitute validation of the integrity of the United States government by upholding the sanctity of the agreement by which Texas became a part of the Union of its own free will PERIOD This agreement, jointly entered into by the Congress of the United States and the Republic of Texas, specified that as a state Texas should retain all its public lands. The legislation also will guarantee to Texas school children the heritage handed down to them by their forebears, since all the income from these lands forms an endowment for public school education in the state

PARAGRAPH

The claim of Texas to its offshore lands rests upon grounds which, as you

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yourself once stated during a visit to Texas, give it a special status, but we believe the legislation now before you strikes the middle ground of fairness to all the states and to the federal government PERIOD It likewise has the important merit of ending the stalemate which is blocking the orderly development of offshore oil resources PERIOD The division of ownership provided for by the measure permits the federal government to administer its portion of these resources as it sees fit and does away with the contention that it is relinquishing to the states what should be retained as a national oil reserve. PARAGRAPH

Although you saw fit to veto somewhat similar legislation in 1946, it is to be recognized that conditions confronting the nation have changed drastically since that time PERIOD The war in Korea, the effort to build up unified defenses in Western Europe, and the tremendous defense program undertaken in this country combine to make it imperative that oil in vast quantities be readily available PARAGRAPH

The offshore areas are one of the greatest potential sources of that oil PERIOD Incidentally, developmental operations in the submerged areas are the most expensive of petroleum activities in America, so that they can be expected to be undertaken only by large, adequately financed companies and then only under conditions that seem to assure long-term stability PERIOD The states have in good working order the machinery required to bring about quick and intensive development of the oil resources in the areas that would be confirmed to them, and thus to make the oil available for the use of the nation PERIOD Settlement of the long-standing controversy would leave the federal government free to proceed according to its own plans with oil

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-3- Fort Worth, Texas

development in the area allotted to it PARAGRAPH

Whatever you do in this matter I am confident will be in accord with what you conscientiously believe to be the best interests of the nation PERIOD That same spirit, plus an interest in Texas and its welfare which I am sure you will understand, animates this appeal from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram PARAGRAPH

As previously has been stated to you, no one connected with this newspaper has any personal financial interest in the matter PERIOD In all sincerity I believe the measure before you embodies a settlement fair to all - - fair in light of the historic fact of state ownership, fair to the school children of Texas and preservation of their valuable heritage, and not only fair but greatly to the benefit of the program of national defense PARAGRAPH

I hope you do not disappoint the citizens of Texas and the school children of the state PERIOD In the form in which it has come to you, the tidelands bill is nothing more than honesty and fair play.

Hopefully and most sincerely,

Amon Carter

Publisher, Fort Worth Star-Telegram

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Charge Star-Telegram